





# *Cheryl Ann Thomas: Soft*

Front Cover:

*Relics 327 - 329 & 331 (detail), 2012*

porcelain

31 x 25 x 23 inches



Frank Lloyd Gallery, Inc.  
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## Cheryl Ann Thomas: Soft

The Frank Lloyd Gallery is pleased to announce an exhibition of new work in porcelain by Cheryl Ann Thomas. Including examples of both *Relics* and *Vessels*, this show demonstrates the artist's persistent stylistic development. Each stage of her evolution has been natural, with nothing forced or contrived in her transitions.

Thomas continues to form her work by coiling and pinching together impossibly thin strands of clay into vertical vessel forms. Rather than smoothing the ridges and furrows that characterize this process, she leaves the textured surface as a permanent record of her engagement with the material. When exposed to the heat of the kiln, the vessels soften or collapse unpredictably. It is by combining several collapsed vessels that she creates her larger sculptures, elegant and graceful compositions that are "exquisite and very delicate, richly open-ended in their associations," according to Constance Mallinson for *Art in America*.

Thomas's work is frequently noted for its allusions to the transience and delicacy of existence. Although the heat of the kiln is what causes the collapse of her forms, it also gives the porcelain she uses its durability and strength. In this way, the artist notes that her work "is not a metaphor, but a real and distinct experience of creation and loss."

Thomas has recently introduced soft, subtle colors into her previously black and white body of work. These new pieces are constructed of gentle shades of blue, brown, gray, cream, and white. The light hues lend a soft-focus quality to her work and make their delicacy, already a defining characteristic, even more pronounced.

Cheryl Ann Thomas comments eloquently on the direction of these new works, writing that:

*My current work reflects a reconsideration of process, acknowledging the subjective nature of choice. I am drawn to the quiet hush of spiral bound, gravity determined forms. The sculptures are opening up. Subtle color is entering the work.*

*The art and my nature are slowly coming into an even closer alignment. It is going soft.*

Cheryl Ann Thomas graduated from the Art Center College of Design in 1982, and has emerged as a ceramic sculptor within the past 13 years. She has been featured in solo and group shows in New York and Los Angeles and her work is included in the collections of the Long Beach Museum of Art, the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, and the Gardiner Museum in Toronto. This is her fourth solo exhibition with the Frank Lloyd Gallery.



*Relics 341 - 344, 2013*  
porcelain  
24 x 28 x 26 inches



*Relics 315 - 317 & 320, 2012*  
porcelain  
31 x 27 x 25 inches



*Relics 345 - 347 & 352, 2013*  
porcelain  
28 x 27 x 22 inches





*Relics 327 - 329 & 331, 2012*  
porcelain  
31 x 25 x 23 inches



*Relics 348 - 351, 2013*  
porcelain  
26 x 27 x 22 inches



*Relics 354 - 357, 2013*  
porcelain  
20 x 26 x 25 inches



*Vessel 89*, 2013  
porcelain  
13 ½ x 18 x 15 inches



*Vessel 90*, 2013  
porcelain  
15 x 16 ½ x 14 inches



*Vessel 88*, 2013  
porcelain  
14 x 17 x 15 inches



*Relics 338 - 340 (wall relief), 2012*  
porcelain  
14 x 29 x 20 inches



*Vessel 94*, 2013  
porcelain  
15 x 13 ½ x 13 inches





*Vessel 93*, 2013  
porcelain  
16 x 13 x 13 inches



*Vessels 94 & 93 (detail), 2013*  
porcelain

# Cheryl Ann Thomas

Lives and works in Ventura, California

<b>Education</b>	1978-82	BFA, Art Center College of Design, Pasadena, California
<b>Selected Solo Exhibitions</b>	2013	<i>Soft</i> , Frank Lloyd Gallery, Santa Monica, California
	2011	<i>New Work</i> , Frank Lloyd Gallery, Santa Monica, California
	2008	<i>Relics</i> , Frank Lloyd Gallery, Santa Monica, California <i>Cheryl A. Thomas</i> , Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York
	2006	<i>Recent Work</i> , Frank Lloyd Gallery, Santa Monica, California <i>Cheryl Ann Thomas</i> , Jane Sauer Thirteen Moons Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico
	2005	<i>Featured Artist</i> , Del Mano Gallery, Los Angeles, California
	2004	<i>Vessels</i> , Ventura County Museum of History and Art's Albinger Museum, Ventura, California
	2003	<i>Conflicting Evidence</i> , Carnegie Art Museum, Oxnard, California
	2002	<i>Showcase</i> , Ojai Center for the Arts, Ojai, California
	2001	<i>Jungle Music</i> , Buenaventura Gallery, Ventura, California
	2000	<i>In Progress</i> , The Upstairs Gallery, Ventura, California
<b>Selected Group Exhibitions</b>	2013	<i>Mesmerized</i> , Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Art, Spring, Texas <i>Prized Possessions</i> , Museum of Ventura County, Ventura, California
	2012	<i>IHOC: Frank's International House of Ceramics</i> , Frank Lloyd Gallery, Santa Monica, California <i>Art in the Age of Globalization</i> , Minneapolis Institute of the Arts, Minneapolis, Minnesota <i>Primed</i> , Santa Fe Clay, Santa Fe, New Mexico <i>Repetitive Nature</i> , Northern Clay Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota <i>Journeys: Westmont Alumni Artist's Invitational</i> , Ridley - Tree Museum of Art, Westmont College, Santa Barbara, California <i>Studio Channel Islands Alumni Now</i> , Studio Channel Islands, Camarillo, California
	2011	<i>Overthrown</i> , Denver Art Museum, Denver, Colorado <i>Contemporary Ceramics</i> , Danese Gallery, New York
	2010	<i>Fables Contemporaines</i> , Mouvements Modernes, Paris, France <i>Basins, Baskets and Bowls: Women Explore the Vessel</i> , Minneapolis Institute of Arts, Minneapolis, Minnesota <i>Fertile Ground</i> , Santa Fe Clay, Santa Fe, New Mexico
	2009	<i>Transformation: Wouter Dam, Richard DeVore, Satoru Hoshino and Cheryl Ann Thomas</i> , Frank Lloyd Gallery, Santa Monica, California <i>Gallery Artists Group Exhibition</i> , Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York <i>Adventures of the Fire</i> , World Contemporary Ceramic Exhibition and World Ceramic Biennale, Icheon, Korea (catalogue)

- 2008 *Celebrating Ceramics, The Frieda K. Bradshur Collection*, Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California  
*The 8th International Ceramics Competition*, Mino, Japan  
*Celebrating California Clay*, Mobile Museum of Art, Mobile, Alabama
- 2007 *Black and White*, Frank Lloyd Gallery, Santa Monica, California  
*SOFA New York*, Nancy Margolis Gallery, New York  
*SOFA Chicago*, Jane Sauer Thirteen Moons Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
*One Work/One World*, Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts, Ojai, California
- 2006 *SOFA Chicago*, Jane Sauer Thirteen Moons Gallery, Santa Fe, New Mexico  
*Beatrice Wood Ceramic Annual*, Curated by Kevin Wallace, Beatrice Wood Center for the Arts, Ojai, California  
*City of Ventura Grant Recipients*, Artist's Union Gallery, Ventura, California
- 2005 *Made by Heart, Defined by Desire*, Xiem Clay Center, Pasadena, California  
*Eccentric Vessels, Cheryl Ann Thomas and Gerri McMillan*, Ventura College Art Gallery, Ventura, California
- 2004 *Cheryl Ann Thomas and Masuo Ojima*, Xiem Clay Center, Pasadena, California  
*Ink and Clay 31*, Henry Hopkins, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California  
*A Classic Competition*, First Place, Carnegie Art Museum, Oxnard, California  
*One Vision*, Buenaventura Art Gallery, Ventura, California  
*City of Ventura Grant Recipients*, Artist's Union Gallery, Ventura, California
- 2003 *Ink and Clay 30*, Hollis Goodall, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California  
*President's Show*, American Ceramics Society, First Place, Millard Sheets Gallery, Pomona, California  
*Dust is also Buddha*, Studio Channel Islands, California State University Channel Islands, Camarillo, California
- 2002 *Ink and Clay 29*, Presidents Purchase Award, Toby Camp, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California  
*President's Show*, American Ceramics Society, Second Place, Judson Studios, Highland Park, California

**Museum  
Collections**

American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, California  
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, California  
Carnegie Art Museum, Oxnard, California  
City of Ventura Municipal Art Collection, Ventura, California  
Frankel Foundation for Art, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan  
Fuller Craft Museum, Brockton, Massachusetts  
Gardiner Museum of Ceramic Art, Toronto, Canada  
Long Beach Museum of Art, Long Beach, California  
Minneapolis Institute for Arts, Minneapolis, Minnesota  
Mobile Art Museum, Mobile, Alabama  
Museum of Fine Art, Houston, Texas  
Museum of Ventura County, Ventura, California





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